MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By CHAIRMAN KARL WAITSCHIES, on March 10, 2005 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Karl Waitschies, Chairman (R)

Rep. Gary Branae, Vice Chairman (D)

Rep. Bob Lake, Vice Chairman (R)

Rep. John Balyeat (R)

Rep. Norma Bixby (D)

Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)

Rep. Margarett H. Campbell (D)

Rep. Tom Facey (D)

Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)

Rep. George G. Groesbeck (D)

Rep. Dennis Himmelberger (R)

Rep. Carol Lambert (R)

Rep. Dave McAlpin (D)

Rep. Jim Peterson (R)

Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)

Rep. Scott Sales (R)

Rep. Bill Warden (R)

Rep. Brady Wiseman (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)

Rep. Holly Raser (D)

Staff Present: Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch

Debra Polhemus, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 762, 3/4/2005; SB 184, 3/4/2005; SB 222, 3/4/2005; SB 261, 3/4/2005; SB 340, 3/4/2005

Executive Action:

HEARING ON SB 261

00:01:14	Opening Statement by Sponsor: SEN. GARY PERRY (R), SD 35, opened the hearing on			
00:01:14	SB 261, Revise manufactured home tax declaration			
	process.			
	process.			
	Proponents' Testimony:			
00:03:05	Bill Gowen, Helena Abstract & Title Company			
00:03:51	Stuart Doggett, Montana Land and Title Associati			
	and Montana Manufacturing Housing & Recreational			
	Vehicle Association			
00:05:46	Robert A. Throssell, Montana Association of Clerk			
	and Recorders			
00:06:42	Brenda Nordland, Montana Department of Justice			
	Opponents' Testimony: None.			
	Informational Testimony:			
00:07:56	Debbie Jurcich, Montana Department of Revenue			
	Questions from Committee Members and Responses:			
00:09:51	REP. LAKE			
00:13:09	REP. PETERSON			
00:14:36	CHAIRMAN WAITSCHIES			
	Closing by Sponsor:			
00:18:11				
00:18:11	SEN. GARY PERRY (R) closed the hearing on SB 261.			
	HEARING ON SB 222			
	Opening Statement by Sponsor:			
00:18:57	SEN. GREGORY BARKUS (R), SD 4, opened the hearing			
	on SB 222, Revise local option fuel tax.			

	Proponents' Testimony:			
00:21:52	L. Harold Blattie, Assistant Director, Montana			
	Association of Counties			
00:25:29	Bill Kennedy, Yellowstone County Commissioner,			
	President, Montana Association of Counties			
00:26:44	Carl Schweitzer, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce			
00:27:34	Jim Patrick, City Manager, Kalispell			
00:28:21	Alec Hansen, League of Cities and Towns			
00:30:39	Joe Mazurek, representing City of Great Falls			
	ore management, compared to the contract of th			
	Opponents' Testimony: None.			
	Informational Testimony: None.			
	Questions from Committee Members and Responses:			
00:31:13	REP. ROSS			
00:33:48	REP. GROESBECK			
00:35:01	REP. WISEMAN			
00:33:01	REP. SALES			
00:37:33	REP. ROSS			
00:41:27	CHAIRMAN WAITSCHIES			
	Closing by Sponsor:			
00:42:49	SEN. GREGORY BARKUS (R) closed the hearing on			
	SB 272.			
	HEARING ON SB 340			
0.0 1.0 1.0	Opening Statement by Sponsor:			
00:43:10	SEN. JEFF ESSMANN (R), SD 28, opened the hearing			
	on SB 340 , Builder allowed tax credit for			
	residential geothermal systems.			
	Proponents' Testimony:			
00:47:11	Leslie McClain, Montana Environmental Information			
	Center			
00:48:27	Ron Devlin, Northwestern Energy Company			
	O1) Doug Hardy, Montana Electric Cooperatives			
<u> </u>	Association via letter			
	110000111101111111111111111111111111111			
	Opponents' Testimony: None.			
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	Informational Testimony:			
00:50:12	Jim McKeon, Montana Department of Revenue			
	Questions from Committee Members and Responses:			
00:50:52	REP. WISEMAN			
00:52:37	REP. BUTCHER			

	Closing by Sponsor:		
00:53:23	SEN. JEFF ESSMANN (R) closed the hearing on		
00.00.20	SB 340.		
	HEARING ON HB 762		
	Opening Statement by Sponsor:		
00:55:17	REP. JOHN BALYEAT (R), HD 100, opened the hearing		
	on HB 762, Property tax relief by replacing state		
	school levy with general fund for 2 years.		
EXHIBIT (tah53a	02)		
	Proponents' Testimony:		
00:59:28	SEN. JOE BALYEAT		
EXHIBIT (tah53a	03)		
	Opponents! Westimens.		
01:06:50	Opponents' Testimony:		
01:00:30	Tom Bilodeau, Research Director, MEA/MFT		
01.09.33	Joe Lamson, representing State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Linda McCulloch		
	Tubile instruction, binda Meediloen		
	Informational Testimony:		
01:11:04	Larry Finch, Montana Department of Revenue		
	1		
	Questions from Committee Members and Responses:		
01:11:22	REP. SALES		
01:13:58	REP. COHENOUR		
01:16:12	REP. WISEMAN		
01:19:12	REP. PETERSON		
01:20:35	REP. HIMMELBERGER		
01:22:34	CHAIRMAN WAITSCHIES		
01 00 00	Closing by Sponsor:		
01:23:32	REP. JOHN BALYEAT (R) closed the hearing on		
	HB 762.		
EXHIBIT (tah53a	U 4)		
01:27:30	REP. FACEY		
01:27:30	SEN. BALYEAT		
01:28:32	REP. COHENOUR		
O 1 • 2 O • J 2	THE . COMMITTEE .		
01:29:01	Break		
02:00:22	Resume		

HEARING ON SB 184

	Opening Statement by Sponsor:		
02:00:49	SEN. JEFF MANGAN (D), SD 12, opened the hearing on		
	SB 184, Local option sales tax.		
	Proponents' Testimony:		
02:06:28	Chris Kukulski, City Manager, Bozeman		
EXHIBIT (tah5			
02:11:51	Gary Marks, City Manager, Whitefish		
EXHIBIT (tah5	·		
02:19:27	Mona Jamison, representing Big Sky Resort Area District		
EXHIBIT (tah5			
02:23:55	Chuck Tooley, Mayor of Billings, President,		
02.23.33	Montana League of Cities and Towns		
02:25:33	John Shontz , Lee Enterprises, specifically the		
02.20.00	Billings Gazette		
02:27:52	M. Duane Larson, representing City of Kalispell		
02:33:24	Rick Evans, President, Great Falls Area Chamber of		
	Commerce		
02:34:00	Stuart Doggett, representing the Montana		
	Innkeepers Association		
02:35:39	Charles Brooks, Billings Area Chamber of Commerce		
	and Yellowstone County Commissioners also speaking		
	for Carl Schweitzer, for Kalispell and Bozeman Chamber of Commerce		
02:37:16	Steve Snezek, Montana Association of Realtors		
02:37:10	Curt Chisholm, Montana Builders Association		
02:30:00	Mark Tymrak, Past President, Montana Association		
02.33.27	of Chiefs of Police and Director of Public Safety,		
	Bozeman		
02:41:49	Jim Patrick, City Manager, Kalispell		
02:45:08	Linda Gryczan, speaking for League of Women Voters		
02:46:00	Bill Dove, Legislative Chair, Montana Police		
	Protection Association		
02:46:28	Randy Gray, Mayor of Great Falls		
02:49:01	Steve Golnar, City Manager, Livingston		
EXHIBIT (tah5			
02:49:44	Tim Burton, City Manager, Helena		
02:51:27	Gordon Morris, Director, Montana Association of		
00.50.40	Counties		
02:52:40 02:56:00	Mike Kadas, Mayor of Missoula Alec Hansen, Montana League of Cities and Towns		
EXHIBIT (tah53a09)			
EMILLII (Call)	340 <i>3</i>		

	Opponents' Testimony:		
03:01:14	Mary Whittinghill, Montana Taxpayers Association		
EXHIBIT (tah	53a10)		
EXHIBIT (tah	53a11)		
EXHIBIT (tah	53a12)		
03:10:40	Nancy Schlepp, Montana Farm Bureau Federation		
03:13:40	John Bloomquist, representing Montana Stockgrowers		
	Association		
03:18:05	Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent		
	Businesses		
03:21:17	Kevin Taylor, Owner, Great Divide Ski Area		
EXHIBIT (tah	53a13)		
03:23:21	Carla Johnson, representing Montana Cattle Women		
03:24:19	George Ochenski, representing Great Divide Ski		
	Area		
03:29:09	Gene Fenderson, Montana Progressive Labor Caucus		
	Informational Testimony: None.		
	Questions from Committee Members and Responses:		
03:30:59	REP. WISEMAN		
03:36:08	REP. SALES		
03:39:17	REP. PETERSON		
03:42:45	REP. ROSS		
03:45:43	REP. BRANAE		
	Closing by Sponsor:		
03:47:45	SEN. JEFF MANGAN (D) closed the hearing on SB 184.		
03:52:03			
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ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment:	12:00	P.M.
Adjournment:	12:00	P.M.

REP. KARL WAITSCHIES, Chairman

DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

KW/dp

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT (tah53aad0.PDF)